

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on Monday, 14th September 2015 at 7.00pm in Eyke Village Hall.

Present: Cllr. Fleming, in the chair, Cllrs. Abu-Hejleh, Clayton, Cushing, Evans, Stangoe and Whitmore, District Councillor Ray Herring, Mrs J Clements, and the clerk.

Apologies: County Councillor Andrew Reid.

Co-option of new Parish Councillor: Cllr. Clayton then signed his Acceptance of Office, and was welcomed to the council by the chairman.

Declarations of Interest: None

Parish Forum: No adjournment, as Mrs Clements gave her report under "Matters Arising".

Minutes: Those of 13.7.15, and the planning meeting of 20.7.15, having been previously circulated, were taken as read, agreed and signed as a correct record.

Matters Arising from the Minutes:

1. **Playground Update.** Mrs Clements reported that the total received so far is £13,600, with decisions awaited from Britten/Pears and Suffolk Giving.

There was a disappointing rejection from Awards For All, as they felt the case made was not strong enough. However, it is possible to reapply, making a stronger case, and Cllr Herring suggested that Mrs Clements contact the Funding Team at Suffolk Coastal, who could advise.

The estimated cost for the 5 a side pitch and basketball stand is £3385.00.

There is still a significant shortfall against the £20,000 quotation, but Cllr. Cushing believes that by volunteers carrying out some of the work, and shopping around for the best price on individual elements, savings can be made.

Cllr Herring congratulated Mrs Clements on the amount raised so far, and also pointed out that there are more sources of funding than even ten years ago.

Cllr Abu-Hejleh then reported that the Dog Show, held the previous day in atrocious weather had still been very well attended, by 31 dogs and their owners, as well as interested onlookers and much enjoyed. As a result she was able to give a cheque for £610 towards the playground. This was a remarkable feat, and she was given a grateful vote of thanks for all her hard work.

Regarding insurance, Community Action Suffolk has confirmed they can cover the playground for both public liability and damage to the equipment. All risks cover for the equipment, based on £20,000 would be £238.14, but could well reduce when cost of groundworks etc is removed. Public liability would depend on the number of pieces of equipment.

Mrs Clements then left the meeting

2. **Highway repairs.** Andrea Grey from SCC Highways inspected the area where the bank encroaches onto the pavement near the safety barrier opposite the bus circle. She was able to clear much of it by hand, but it needs a long term solution, for which she will consult the engineer.
3. **Traffic Calming.** The latest response, following a prompt from Cllr Reid, from SCC regarding the installation of the village gates is that they are making 'slow progress' in getting a brief together to give to KMG to design. Councillors were puzzled at this, as they thought the design was already in existence.

Cllr Clayton raised his concerns at the speed of traffic in the village, and felt that further solutions should be considered. Cllr Cushing briefly explained the long history of wrestling with the problem over many years.

It was agreed that the sight lines for the speed camera at the Rendlesham end of the village had become obscured to a degree by foliage, and will be cut back.

4. **Fete.** It was agreed that the fete was a great success, with its earlier starting time of 1pm. Helped by the good weather, a record amount was raised. The clerk will send a letter of thanks to Mr and Mrs Brigginslaw for generously allowing the use of their garden.

Reports:

1. **SCC.** Councillors had received the written report from Cllr Reid, so it was taken as read.

2. Cllr. Herring SCDC. The new offices at Melton should be ready for use in 2016, and at the same time the aim is to make face to face access available in the town so that there is no loss of service. The proposal is to have a facility within Woodbridge Library, as is available in other areas. As part of putting together a Suffolk Devolution Proposal, that is, the transfer of powers and responsibilities from central government to the local level, a special cabinet meeting is taking place on 15th September. It is very early days, and more information will be forthcoming in due course. The District Council is actively looking at options for short stay traveller encampments, where facilities would be adequate but basic, and where stays would be no longer than a couple of months. Improvements to Felixstowe are ongoing, and 7 of the 8 seafront gardens are now open, with the eighth due to open by the end of the year. With other projects in hand, including the sale of the Spa Pavilion, to be redeveloped as a theatre and restaurant, and play area improvements it is hoped to bring increasing prosperity to the town.
No decision has yet been made on whether residents will in the future be charged for collecting organic waste.
The Suffolk Coastal Chairman, Sue Harvey, aims to visit each of the 100 plus communities across the district during her year's tenure, and would be pleased to be informed of any events within the village which she could attend.
Cllr Herring was thanked for his report, and he then left the meeting.

Other Matters:

1. Village Green. It was agreed that the clerk would sign and return the annual agreement allowing the parish council to occupy the green.
2. Village car park hedge. The clerk will ask Mr Hassan to cut the car park hedge, which he usually does during half term week. Mr Whitmore suggested that it should be reduced to 4'6" on the long side. Mr Fleming will also cut the rec.
3. Doggy bin request. Mrs Marland, of White Woman's Lane has requested a bin either at the top of White Woman's Lane or Cracks Lane. It was agreed that this was a reasonable request, and to pursue this with Suffolk Coastal Services.
4. Health & Safety and Equality Policies. In order to comply with a request from a potential funding body, the Parish Council has to provide a copy of both these policies. The clerk had put together suitable versions, which were agreed by the council, with the addition to the Health and Safety Policy of "and risk assessments carried out as appropriate"

Finance:

1. Cheques to be agreed: Suffolk Coastal District Council: uncontested election expenses: £100; The Poppy Appeal; wreath: £17.00; Alan Comber; website services: £21.00; Mrs Pooley: Salary July-September: £432.36; HMRC second quarter: £108.00; Business Services at CAS: Annual Insurance: £253.13
2. Account balances:
Current Account 30.6.15: £10877.06 less cheques agreed since: £686.36 = £10190.70
Business Savings 30.06.15: £11330.22 plus play payment £2349.75 = £13679.97
Business Savings 30.06.15: £117.97
3. The clerk was confirmed as the Responsible Financial Officer.
4. The clerk went through the list of assets for insurance purposes. These were found to be adequate.

Meeting Dates:

1. Time and Tide: a day of nostalgia at Shingle Street: 26.09.15 from 11am to 5pm
2. Suffolk Coastal Area Meeting: 21.9.15 from 7 – 9pm at The Riverside Centre. Cllr Cushing and possibly Cllr Abu-Hejleh to attend. The clerk will forward details.
3. Town and Parish Liaison/ Budget Review Meeting: 16.11.15, 6.30pm in the Council Chamber, Woodbridge. Cllr Cushing to attend.

To receive items for information:

1. The clerk is to continue pursuing ownership of the land on which the village hall stands. It was suggested that Lesley Thomas may be able to help.
2. Mrs Downing has complained to Cllr Abu-Hejleh about the straw in the road when laden trailers travel through without sufficient covering. It was agreed that this is a very seasonal occurrence

which cannot be helped.

3. Potholes were reported in Church Lane from Kinsland down towards the rec. and serious erosion at the sides of White Woman' s Lane, which the clerk will report. There are also overgrown footpaths reported, but more details are needed of exactly which ones.
4. Cllr Clayton mentioned the possibility of putting up mirrors to aid when exiting the junctions at Church Lane and Creaseys Hill. It was explained that strictly speaking it is not legal, but if individuals decide to put them up, as several have along The Street, it is up to the Highways Department to enforce their removal.

In the absence of other business, the meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Next meeting: Monday, 9th November 2015 at 7.00pm.